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TRA Appoints Home Energy Conservation Plan Task Force

Members to study and recommend statewide home energy conservation plan

NASHVILLE – The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA) yesterday agreed to appoint a home energy conservation task force to review existing state conservation plans and make recommendations that will assist consumers served by natural gas companies.

"If history repeats itself, Tennessee consumers can again expect to pay higher than normal natural gas prices this winter. And while we cannot do much to control the commodity cost of gas, we can lead the charge in promoting home energy conservation. Conservation is good public policy," said TRA Director Eddie Roberson, author of the motion.

Roberson recommended that the task force consider three (3) broad areas: education, diagnostics and remediation. An additional element of the task force's assignment is to recommend a research funding component to support and contribute to the efforts of worthwhile research of natural gas efficiency.

"The TRA supports initiatives that balance the best interests of Tennessee utility consumers and providers," said TRA Chairman Sara Kyle. "This task force will serve as a helpful and necessary resource for examining the path Tennessee should take in the conservation of energy."

The formation of the task force is the first step toward a statewide home energy conservation program within the counties served by the regulated local natural gas companies.

Recommendations from the task force are to be presented to the TRA by November 10, 2006 in order to decide on a Home Energy Conservation and Research Plan before the coming winter.

The mission of the TRA is to promote the public interest by balancing the interests of utility consumers and providers. For more information on the TRA, visit online at www.state.tn.us/tra.

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